ATTACHMENT - CLAIMS LISTING

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) A ~~steel tower for a~~ windmill~~,~~ comprising:

a number of cylindrical or tapered tower sections which are configured to support the windmill,

at least some of the ~~wider~~ tower sections ~~of which~~ being subdivided into two or more associated elongated shell segments, which associated shell segments are adapted to combine into a complete tower section, ~~by means of~~

inwardly-extending vertical flanges provided on each of the associated shell segment which vertical flanges are ~~tightened~~ connected together to form an associated complete tower section, ~~e.g. by bolts,~~ and

inwardly-extending upper and lower horizontal flanges provided, respectively, on said associated shell segments ~~being also provided with upper and lower horizontal flanges, respectively, to allow~~ for interconnection of the tower sections one on top of the other to support the windmill.

2. (currently amended) A windmill ~~steel tower~~ according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the tower sections is ~~being~~ divided into three associated shell segments of essentially equal arc length~~, i.e. 120 ° each~~.

3. (currently amended) A windmill ~~steel tower~~ according to claim 1, wherein at least one of ~~a~~ the shell segments comprises ~~at least two~~ lengths of rolled steel plate ~~segments welded~~ joined together along ~~their~~ abutting horizontal edges by welds such that the vertical flanges of the associated shell segment run along side edges of each length of the rolled steel plate and ~~being fitted with~~ the horizontal flanges of the associated shell segment run along the free edges on uppermost and lowermost lengths of rolled steel plates ~~edges~~, said vertical and horizontal flanges being provided with a number of throughholes for interconnecting bolts.

4. (currently amended) A windmill ~~steel tower~~ according to claim 1, wherein the vertical flanges are welded onto the shell segments offset from the ~~corresponding~~ side edges of the respective shell segments ~~by a distance leaving~~ such that a space is provided between opposing surfaces of adjacent vertical flanges, wherein ~~for~~ a spacer bar is sandwiched between the adjacent vertical flanges ~~them~~, and wherein ~~as~~ the adjacent vertical flanges with the spacer bar therebetween are bolted together.

5. (currently amended) A windmill ~~steel tower~~ according to claim ~~1~~ 4, wherein said spacer bar is provided with throughholes matching the holes in the flanges, and ~~preferably~~ each throughhole in the spacer bar has a notch extending from the edge of the bar into the throughhole and wide enough to allow lateral sliding of the spacer bar over a bolt.

6. (currently amended) A windmill ~~steel tower~~ according to claim ~~1~~ 5, wherein the vertical and/or horizontal joints between shell segments and tower sections, respectively, are ~~being~~ covered by ~~inserting~~ a filler material ~~and/~~or a filler element.

7. (currently amended) A windmill ~~steel tower~~ according to claim 1, wherein at least one shell segment ~~is provided with fitting out in the form of e.g.~~ includes a ladder section and cable fixtures before being transported to the building site.

8. (currently amended) A method of building a large size, cylindrical or tapered tower for a windmill, of single-walled steel tower sections from prefabricated shell segments, ~~whereby at least the wider sections are divided into segments along vertical lines and interconnected by flanges provided along the edges thereof,~~ comprising the steps of:

~~a)~~ ~~providing~~ fabricating two or more ~~tower~~ shell segments from a rolled steel plate having ~~the required~~ a desired radius of curvature~~,~~ such that said shell segments form~~ing~~ in unison a complete circumferential tower section, said fabricating step including ~~b)~~ providing each shell segment with vertical and horizontal ~~connecting~~ flanges along free edges thereof extending inwardly relative to the radius of curvature,

~~c)~~ mounting one or more of the shell segments on a transportation carriage or supporting frame,

~~d)~~ transporting the one or more shell ~~said supported~~ segments mounted on the transportation carriage or supporting frame to ~~the~~ a building site,

~~e)~~ connecting ~~mounting~~ the shell segments together at the building site with connecting devices along their vertical flanges to provide one or more tower sections ~~by connecting means, e.g. bolts~~,

~~f)~~ mounting tower sections on top of each other at the building site by connecting them along their opposing horizontal flanges ~~by~~ with connecting devices, ~~means, e.g. bolts~~ and

supporting a windmill with the tower sections.

9. (currently amended) A method according to claim 8, wherein said fabricating ~~rolled steel plate in~~ step ~~a) constitutes~~ includes the steps of forming a rolled steel plate in the form of a 360° shell, ~~which is initially being welded~~ welding the 360° shell together to form a cylindrical or tapered tower section, and dividing the tower section ~~then it is cut~~ into ~~the~~ a number of elongated shell segments ~~required~~.

10. (currently amended) A method according to claim 8: ~~,~~

wherein said fabricating ~~previous to~~ step ~~a), an optional number of rolled steel plates in the form of elongated~~ includes the steps of fabricating groups of two or more different length shell segments,

wherein the connecting step includes the steps of:

connecting two or more shell segments of one group together along their abutting horizontal edges to form a first complete tower section with a first circumferential length, and

connecting two or more shell segments from two different groups ~~are being welded~~ together along their abutting horizontal edges to establish a second complete tower section with a second circumferential ~~larger~~ length~~s of tower shell~~.

11. (currently amended) A method according to claim ~~1~~ 8, wherein said connecting ~~the flanges in~~ step ~~b) are being welded~~ includes the step of welding the vertical and horizontal flanges of adjacent shell segments together in a position pointing towards the center of the tower.

12. (currently amended) A method according to claim 8~~;~~:

wherein said providing each shell segment with vertical and horizontal flanges along free edges step includes the step of welding the vertical flanges onto the shell segments ~~are being welded in such distance~~ offset from ~~the~~ side edges of the respective shell segments such that a space is provided between opposing surfaces of adjacent vertical flanges, and

wherein said connecting step includes the step of positioning a spacer bar ~~could be sandwiched~~ between at least some of the opposing surfaces of adjacent vertical flanges so that the spacer bar remains positioned between the opposing surfaces of the adjacent vertical flanges as ~~they~~ the adjacent vertical flanges are ~~tightened~~ connected together.

13. (currently amended) A method according to claim 12,

wherein a vertical joint is visible after said ~~inter~~connecting step ~~two neighbour shells via~~ of the opposing surfaces of the adjacent vertical flanges with the ~~an intermediary~~ spacer bar therebetween, and

further including the step of ~~is being covered by~~ inserting a filler material ~~and/~~or a filler element between the adjacent vertical flanges to cover the vertical joint.

14. (currently amended) A method according to claim 8, wherein said mounting tower section step includes the step of interconnecting ~~interconnection of~~ horizontal flanges of adjacent tower sections ~~is performed~~ after offsetting ~~the~~ vertical division lines of the shell segments of ~~neighbor~~ the adjacent tower sections.

15. (currently amended) A method according to claim 8, ~~wherein~~ further comprising the step of ~~fitting out~~ equipping at least one ~~each~~ shell segment with ~~necessary~~ a ladders section or a cable fixture ~~etc. is performed~~ before said transporting step ~~transportation to the site~~.

16. (currently amended) A method according to claim 8, further including the step of ~~wherein all parts of the tower structure are being~~ surface treating ~~treated~~ the shell segments in ~~the~~ a workshop before said transporting step~~being transported to the building site~~.

17. (cancelled)